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INVESTOR IN PEOPLE

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1. Your reference

DB/3PP-03536/BEP

2. Patent application number

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0328614.3

3. Full name, address and postcode of the or of each applicant *(underline all surnames)*

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Patents ADP number *(if you know it)*

If the applicant is a corporate body, give the country/state of its incorporation

872 8982001

4. Title of the invention

BLISTER PACK

5. Name of your agent *(if you have one)*

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08142291001

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*Brooke Ballall*

Date

9 December 2003

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DAVID BAILEY

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## BLISTER PACK

The present invention relates to a blister pack. In particular, it relates to an improvement in blister packs which makes it more difficult for a child to release a  
5 medicament from the blister pack without making it unduly difficult for the elderly or infirm to remove the medicament.

Conventional blister cards or packs typically include a plastics sheet material moulded to provide a plurality of recesses into each of which recesses is placed a  
10 medicament, typically in tablet or capsule form. The medicaments are held in place by means of a foil retaining sheet. When the patient wishes to use the medicament, they push the tablet or capsule through the foil retaining sheet. For ease of release, the foil retaining sheet is usually rather thin and easily ruptured. This raises issues of child safety, as it becomes very easy for a child to tamper  
15 with the blister pack, so releasing the medication. One approach to improving the child-resistance of a blister pack is to increase the thickness of the foil in order to require greater strength in order to push the medicament through the foil retaining sheet. However, one needs to be careful to avoid producing a blister pack from  
20 which elderly or infirm might find it impossible to gain access to their medicament.

Accordingly, there is a need to provide a blister pack that provides resistance to tampering by children but allows the elderly or infirm to release their medicament without undue difficulty. WO 02/32666 describes one approach in which a first sheet material is attached to the foil of a conventional blister pack by a temporary adhesive. The first sheet covers all of the individual medicament recesses, but is itself of smaller overall dimensions than the blister pack itself. Overlaying the first sheet is a second sheet material. This is provided with a permanent adhesive and is larger than the first sheet material such that where it overlies the first sheet,  
25 it is adhered thereto by the permanent adhesive, but where it does not overlie the  
30

first sheet, it adheres by the permanent adhesive to the foil retaining sheet of the blister pack. The second sheet is perforated or scored in the area around where it overlies each medicament recess. The user peels off a portion of the second sheet adjacent the location of a medicament. The perforations ensure selective removal  
5 only of that part adjacent the chosen medicament and the use of a permanent adhesive provides that a respective portion of the first sheet material is also removed. The user can then press the medicament through the foil layer as usual.

10 However, the arrangement of WO 02/32666 requires careful cutting and assembly of the components. The present invention seeks to provide an alternative blister pack arrangement.

15 In its broadest sense, in one aspect the present invention provides a medicament blister pack comprising a medicament tray having an upper surface to which is bonded a medicament retaining sheet. The medicament retaining sheet comprises a laminate comprising bonded first and second sheet materials.

20 In a second aspect, the present invention provides a medicament retaining sheet for a medicament blister pack, the retaining sheet comprising a laminate comprising bonded first and second sheet materials.

In a third aspect, the present invention provides the use of a laminate comprising bonded first and second sheets as a medicament retaining sheet in a blister pack.

25 Preferably, the first sheet material is a paper material.

Preferably, the second sheet material is a metal foil or a metalised plastics sheet.

Suitably, the second sheet material is bonded to the medicament containing sheet.

Preferably, the medicament tray comprises a moulded plastics tray having a plurality of individual medicament receiving cavities. Suitably, the tray is formed by vacuum moulding.

5 Preferably, the first sheet material includes lines of weakness defining medicament release zones.

Typically, the lines of weakness defining medicament release zones comprise perforations or slits. Suitably, the lines of weakness are formed by kiss-cutting.

10 The above and other aspects of the present invention will now be illustrated in further detail, by way of example only, with reference to accompanying Figure 1 which is a schematic sectional view of an embodiment of a blister pack in accordance with the present invention;

15 Referring to the figure, there is shown a blister pack 10 comprising a moulded plastics tray 11 including a plurality of moulded cavities or recesses 12 each containing a medicament in the form of a capsule or tablet 13. The tablets are held in place by means of a medicament retaining sheet 14. Retaining sheet 14 is  
20 adhered to tray 11 by means of an adhesive 15.

Medicament retaining sheet 14 is a laminate comprising bonded first 20 and second 21 sheet materials. Suitably, the first sheet material 20 is a paper material. Suitably, the second sheet material 21 is a sheet material of the type  
25 conventionally used in the production of blister packs. For example, the second sheet material 21 may be a thin metallic foil or a metalised plastics sheet material.

The medicament retaining sheet 14 is adhered to the tray 11 by adhesive 15 contacting second sheet material 21. The adhesive 15 may be applied to the

retaining sheet 14 or directly to the tray 11, for example by roller-coating.

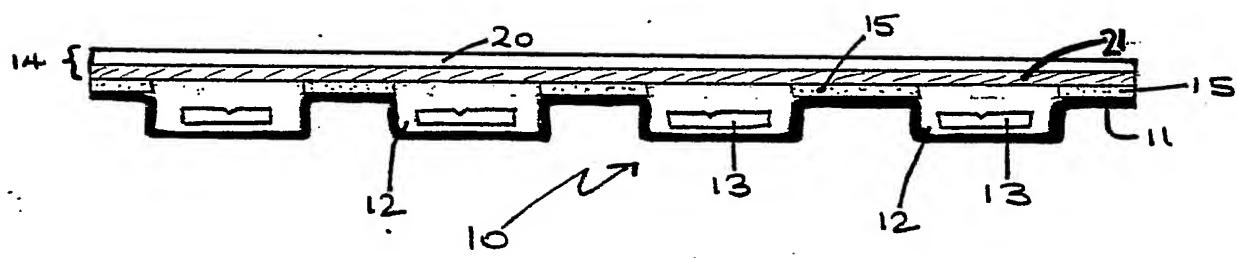


FIG  
1

